



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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Philippines

Agricultural Situation

Farm Sector Affected by Luzon Dry Spell

2007

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Report Highlights:

Delayed and less-than-normal rainfall in Luzon Island will negatively affect overall Philippine farm production in 2007. Rice and corn production are likely to slowdown from the previous year's expansion as a result.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Manila [RP1]
[RP]

Delayed and less-than-normal rainfall in the main island of Luzon will negatively affect the performance of Philippine agriculture in 2007. Philippine Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap, however, reportedly is still "cautiously optimistic" that the local farm sector this year will still exhibit some growth. The Department of Agriculture (DA) had earlier projected a 4.0-5.0 percent growth in 2007, after posting a 3.9 percent expansion the previous year. Rice and corn production, which grew 5.0 and 15.8 percent, respectively, last year, are likely to slow to 1.5-2.0 percent (for rice) and 2.5-3.0 percent (for corn) in 2007. The DA, according to media reports, will undertake a more thorough field assessment on damage brought about by the dry spell.